## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A compound of the formula

$$A^1{}_n\, A^2{}_n\, A^3{}_n\, A^4\, A\, A^6\, I\, C\, A^9\, Q\, I\, A^{12}\, Y\, A^{14}\, F\, G\, A^{17}\, F \quad (1)$$

and acylated and/or amidated forms thereof,

wherein each n is independently 0 or 1;

$A^1$, $A^2$ and $A^3$ are each independently any amino acid;

$A^4$, $A^{12}$ and $A^{17}$ are independently E, D or Q;

$A^{14}$ is an aromatic or neutral polar amino acid;

$A^6$ and $A^9$ represent independently a basic amino acid or a polar neutral amino acid;

wherein each of said amino acids may be in the L form, racemic form, or D form, with the proviso that

the compound of formula (1) does not comprise ALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF when all amino acids are in the L-form~~, and~~

~~must be in isolated form when all amino acids are in the L-form and formula (1) is of the sequence LDLDTKICEQIEYYFGDF, DDADQRIIKQLEYYFGNI, VSKLEASTIRQEYYFGDA or QERAIIRQVEYYFGDF~~.

2. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein all amino acids are gene encoded.

3. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein all linkages between the amino acids are amide linkages.

4. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein all of the amino acids are in the D form.

5. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein all of the amino acids are in the L form.

6. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein each of $A^4$, $A^{12}$ and $A^{17}$ is independently aspartic or glutamic.

7. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein $A^{14}$ is phenylalanine or tyrosine.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein each of $A^6$ and $A^9$ is independently lysine, histidine, arginine, glutamine, or asparagine.

10. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of AALEAQICQQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:2), AALQAKICHQIQYYFGQF (SEQ ID NO:3), QQQEAKICHQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:4) and AALEAKICHQIEYQFGDF (SEQ ID NO:12).

11. (previously presented) **[[~~The~~]]** A compound ~~of claim 1~~ which is in isolated or purified form and is selected from the group consisting of LDLDTKICEQIEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:15), DDADQRIIKQLEYYFGNI (SEQ ID NO:17), VSKLEASTIRQEYYFGDA (SEQ ID NO:18) and QERAIIRQVEYYFGDF (SEQ ID NO:19).

12. (original) A pharmaceutical, veterinary or agricultural/horticultural composition which comprises the compound of claim 1 along with a suitable excipient.

13-19. (canceled)

20. (withdrawn) A method to treat viral infection in a plant or animal subject which method comprises administering to said subject an antivirally effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

21. (withdrawn) The method of claim 20 wherein said method further comprises administering at least one additional antiviral agent.

22. (withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said administering of the compound and said at least one additional antiviral agent is substantially simultaneous.

23. (withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said administering of the compound of claim 1 and said at least one antiviral compound is sequential.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said additional antiviral compound is I-RNA.

25-35. (canceled)

36. (new) A compound of the formula

$$A^1{}_n\, A^2{}_n\, A^3{}_n\, A^4\, A\, A^6\, I\, C\, A^9\, Q\, I\, A^{12}\, Y\, A^{14}\, F\, G\, A^{17}\, F \quad (1)$$

and acylated and/or amidated forms thereof,

wherein each n is independently 0 or 1;

$A^1$, $A^2$ and $A^3$ are each independently any amino acid;

$A^4$, $A^{12}$ and $A^{17}$ are independently E or D;

$A^{14}$ is an aromatic or neutral polar amino acid;

$A^6$ and $A^9$ represent independently a basic amino acid or a polar neutral amino acid;

wherein each of said amino acids may be in the L form, racemic form, or D form, with the proviso that

the compound of formula (1) does not comprise ALEAKICHQIEYYFGDF when all amino acids are in the L-form.